

AMENDMENTS TO THE ABSTRACT

**Please replace the Abstract paragraph with the following amended paragraph:**

In a[[A]]n integrated circuit, a layer including a plurality of conductive wires is described. A first wire<sub>1</sub> having sidewalls<sub>1</sub> is tapered from ~~[[the ]]~~a proximal end which has a first width to ~~[[the ]]~~a distal end which has a second width, to reduce width from the first width to the second width, and the first wire also has a substantially vertical surface. A second wire, spaced apart from the first wire, ~~the second wire~~ also has sidewalls a substantially vertical surface. The first wire and the second wire are each horizontally disposed along side each other forming a part of a sidewall capacitor between facing sidewalls. ~~The sidewall capacitor capacitance is progressively reduced responsive to the first wire taper.~~ Capacitors are created between the first substantially vertical surface and the second substantially vertical surface, the capacitors are respectively associated with capacitances and with a plurality of loads, the plurality of loads is progressively reduced responsive to a progressive reduction of the capacitances as associated with the first wire taper.